

The Attitude Control Motor (ACM) was shipped from the ATK Test Facility in Elkton, MD (shown above) to White Sands Missile Range (WSMR photo in banner) in support of the upcoming Pad Abort 1 this spring. The motor will be installed in the Launch Abort System next week.



The Ground Test Article cone assembly was moved in preparation for final trimming at the Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) in New Orleans, Louisiana. The move is accomplished using the overhead crane, and the personnel seen holding the tag lines (ropes), are there to ensure safe operations.



The team at the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, Louisiana began the "wet tape test" (Shown above) on the primer that was applied to the barrel assembly. The test verifies that the primer is adhering properly to the base metal.



The Sensor Test for Orion RelNav Risk Mitigation (STORRM) Team is completing the ground testing in preparation for actual data collection in a space environment. The STS-131 mission will include the installation of the reflective elements to the Docking Target (shown below) on the Space Station during it's mission in March. The actual Detailed Test Objective (DTO shown left) will be flown on STS-134 in late July, where the crew will perform several tasks using STORRM to collect sensor data. The data will be analyzed after the flight, which will improve sensor development to be used on manned and unmanned vehicles.



